

# THORGAL

## Giants

ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME

9th CINEBOOK  
The 9th Art Publisher

ROSIN 96

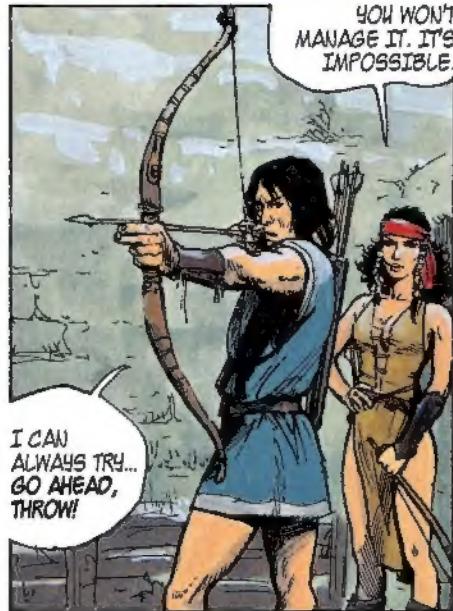
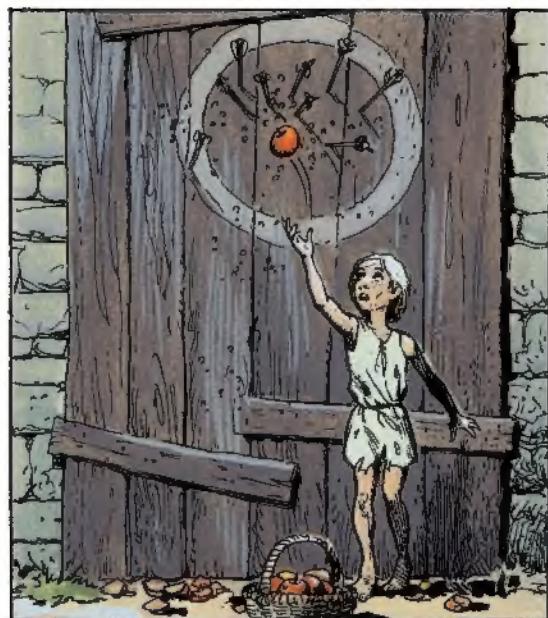
ROSINSKI-VAN HAMME

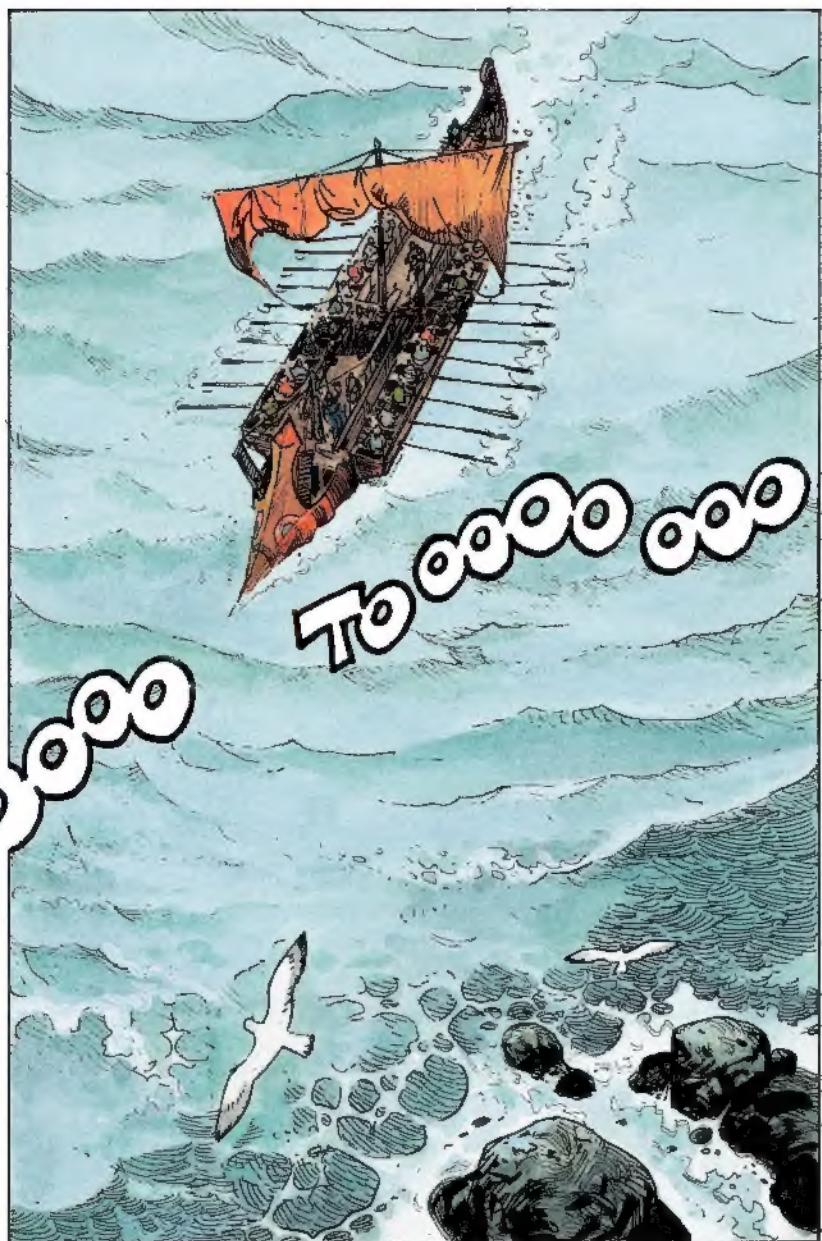
THORGAL

Giants



Colour work: GRAZA





MIGHTY SHAIGAN, NOBLE KRISS,  
I SAILED TO THE GREAT HARBOUR OF  
THE BLUE SEA WITH A SHIPMENT OF  
SLAVES, JUST AS YOU ORDERED...



HERE IS THE PRODUCT OF THEIR  
SALE: 2,400 PIECES OF GOOD  
GOLD, PLUS AN ADVANCE ON  
THE NEXT SHIPMENT.

THAT'S GOOD, DRAGOV.  
VERY GOOD. BUT DIDN'T YOU  
PUT YOUR RETURN TRIP TO  
GOOD USE BY RAIDING  
SOME WEALTHY  
MERCHANT CITY?

BUT THE CURRENTS PULLED ME OFF COURSE,  
AND I WAS FORCED TO MAKE DO WITH A  
SMALL ISOLATED KINGDOM TO THE SOUTH-  
WEST. A KINGDOM WITH EMPTY COFFERS,  
SO I CAPTURED ITS PRINCE TO RECOUP  
OUR EXPENSES.

BRING  
FORTH THE  
PRISONER!

I WOULD  
HAVE LOVED TO,  
NOBLE KRISS...

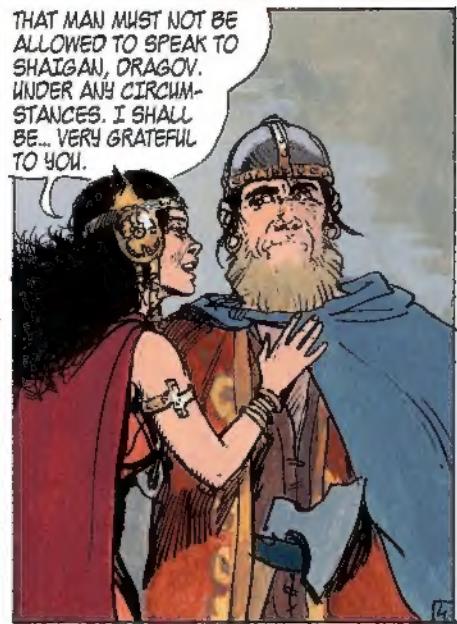
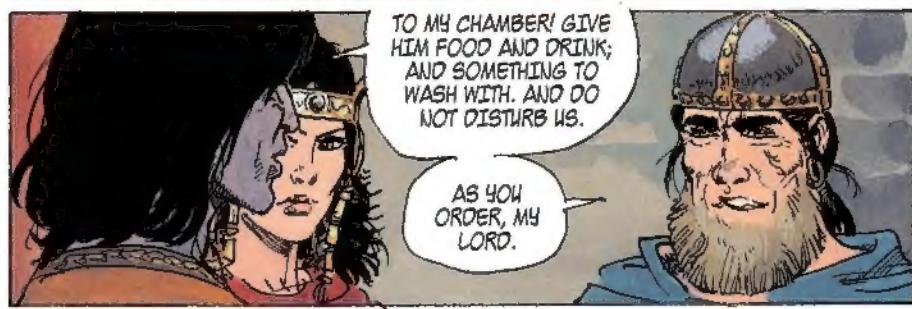
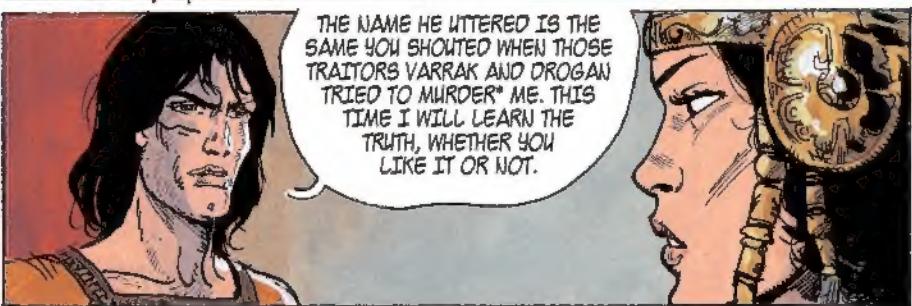
MM... THESE ARE MEAGRE  
SPOILS, DRAGOV.

I KNOW, NOBLE  
KRISS. BUT PER-  
HAPS WE WILL BE  
ABLE TO RANSOM  
HIM?

THORGAL?!

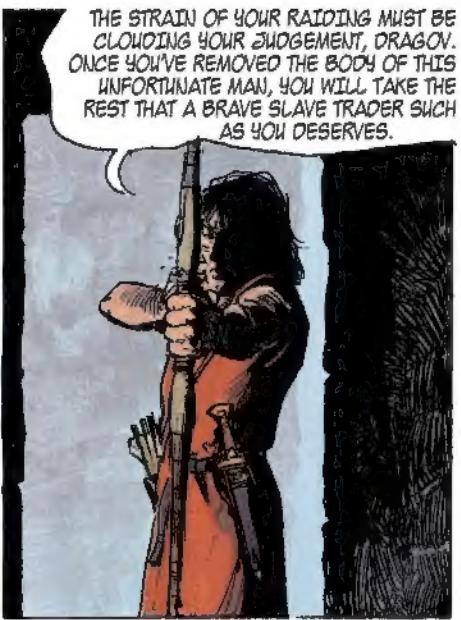
SILENCE, YOU  
DOG!





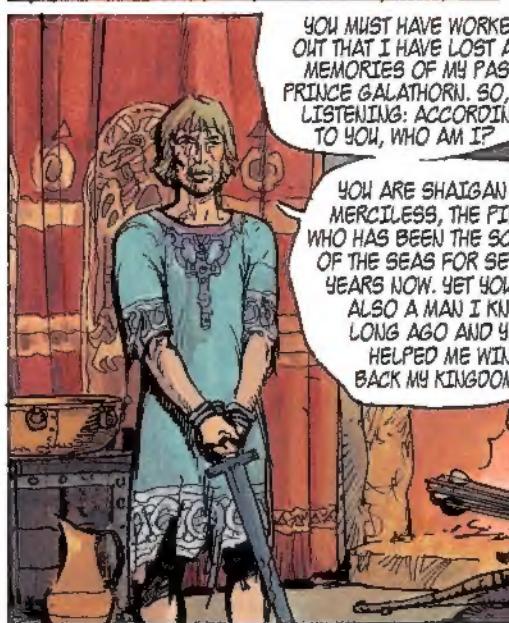
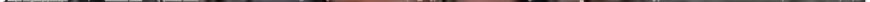
\*SEE OGOTAI'S CROWN





I BEG YOU, MY  
BELOVED, DO NOT  
LISTEN TO THAT MAN.  
HE WILL SAY ANYTHING  
TO SAVE HIS MISERABLE LIFE.

YOU'RE REALLY PUTTING A LOT  
OF EFFORT INTO TRYING TO  
STOP ME FROM LISTENING TO  
HIM, KRISS. IT ONLY MAKES  
WHAT HE HAS TO TELL ME MORE  
INTERESTING.



THORGAL AEGIRSSON...  
THAT NAME MEANS NOTHING  
TO ME. WHAT WAS HE LIKE  
THIS... THORGAL?

YET ALSO A SIMPLE, WHOLE-SOME MAN WHO WAS INTERESTED  
IN NEITHER POWER NOR WEALTH.  
WHEN HE LEFT BREK ZARITH  
WITH HIS WIFE AND SON, HE  
WAS LOOKING FOR A PLACE  
WHERE HE COULD LIVE IN  
PEACE, FAR FROM THE FURY  
OF MEN.



\*SEE BEYOND THE SHADOWS

THIS... THORGAL  
HAD A WIFE,  
THEN?

YES. AARICIA, A  
VIKING PRINCESS OF  
GREAT BEAUTY. THEY ALSO  
HAD A LITTLE BOY, WHOSE  
NAME I'VE FORGOTTEN,  
WHO MUST HAVE BEEN  
TWO AT THE TIME.

A DIFFERENT NAME... A DIFFERENT  
WIFE... A SON... ANOTHER LIFE... SO  
KRISS OF VALNOR HAS DECEIVED ME  
FROM THE START, EVER SINCE  
I WOKE UP IN THAT BOAT ON  
THE GREAT RIVER?...

OR PERHAPS YOU'RE THE  
ONE WHO'S LYING! OFFERING  
ME THIS MADE-UP STORY  
FOR WHO KNOWS WHAT  
REASON!...

WAIT...

THESE SIGNS ON  
YOUR PALM... WHERE  
DO THEY COME FROM?

ANOTHER THING  
THAT I DO NOT  
KNOW. WHY?

GIVE ME A  
MIRROR...

LOOK... THIS IS YOUR NAME  
WRITTEN IN THE SACRED LAN-  
GUAGE: THORGAL, SON OF  
AEGIR, THE SEA GIANT.  
BUT THE RUNES ON YOUR  
HAND ARE BACK TO  
FRONT AS IF INSTEAD  
OF GIVING YOU A  
NAME, SOMEONE  
TRIED TO TAKE IT  
FROM YOU.

I AM A ROYAL PRINCE,  
THORGAL. GODS AND  
KINGS SPEAK IN THE  
SAME VOICE.

AND WHY  
WOULD MY NAME  
BE WRITTEN  
INVERTED?

I DO NOT  
KNOW. AND  
IF YOU DON'T  
EITHER, THEN  
YOU WILL  
HAVE TO ASK  
THE GODS  
THEMSELVES.

THORGAL  
AEGIRSSON...  
AARICIA... THE  
LANGUAGE OF  
THE GODS...

RAAAAH... I'VE  
HAD ENOUGH OF  
THIS! ENOUGH!



\*SEE THE INVISIBLE FORTRESS





BUT WHAT SORT OF WORLD DO YOU THINK WE LIVE IN, YOU STUPID FOOL? THERE ARE ONLY TWO KINDS OF MEN IN THIS WORLD: THE POWERFUL, AND THOSE WHO SERVE THEM - THE MULTITUDE, BENT OVER THE SOIL, WHO PAY, SUFFER AND DIE SO THAT THE POWERFUL CAN BECOME YET MORE POWERFUL. IT HAS BEEN THIS WAY SINCE THE DAWN OF MAN, AND WILL BE SO UNTIL THE END OF TIME.



IT'S TRUE THAT I LIED TO YOU. I DON'T KNOW HOW AND WHY YOU LOST YOUR MEMORY, BUT I SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY. I NEEDED A MAN TO GIVE ORDERS TO MEN IN THIS MEN'S WORLD, AND THANKS TO YOU, I'VE OBTAINED WHAT I'VE WANTED ALL MY LIFE...



COME, SIT BY MY SIDE, THORGAL. IT IS SEATED ON THIS THRONE THAT WE RECEIVE OUR VASSALS WHEN THEY COME TO PAY THEIR TRIBUTE. IT IS HERE THAT WE CAN TRULY TASTE THE INCOMPARABLE FLAVOUR OF POWER.



YOU DIDN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION, KRIS OF VALNOR: **WHY ME?** WHY THE FLEA-RIDDEN WRETCH I WAS AND NOT ONE OF THOSE POWERFUL WARLORDS YOU ADMIRE SO MUCH?



HOW CAN YOU ASK ME SUCH A QUESTION?

HAVE YOU NOT FOUND THE ANSWER IN MY CARESSES? IN ALL THOSE NIGHTS WE SPENT TOGETHER? IN THE FIGHTING WE DID, SIDE BY SIDE?



YOU'D MADE ME BELIEVE YOU WERE MY WIFE...

BUT THAT TOO WAS FALSE! LIKE ALL THE REST! ONE DAY, PERHAPS, I WILL KNOW WHAT TERRIBLE FATE MADE YOU CROSS MY PATH IN THE MEANTIME, I'VE MADE UP MY MIND: I'M LEAVING THIS ACCURSED PLACE TOMORROW.



NO, SHAIGAN... THORGAL... DON'T GO! I... I NEED YOU...



AND I'LL BE TAKING GALATHORN WITH ME. HE'LL HELP ME FIND THOSE WHO ARE WAITING FOR ME.



I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU, THORGAL. LOVED YOU TO THE POINT OF HATRED, SOMETIMES... OFTEN... BUT LOVED. STAY WITH ME, I BEG YOU...

TO HELP YOU COMMIT YET MORE MASSACRES? HOARD THE SPOILS OF MORE RAIDOS? NEVER! I'M ASHAMED ENOUGH ALREADY OF WHAT YOU MADE ME DO.



SO BE IT, THEN!  
**DRAGOV, TO ME!**

WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT,  
THE NAME SHAIGAN THE MERCILESS  
WILL REMAIN THE TERROR OF  
THE SEAS.

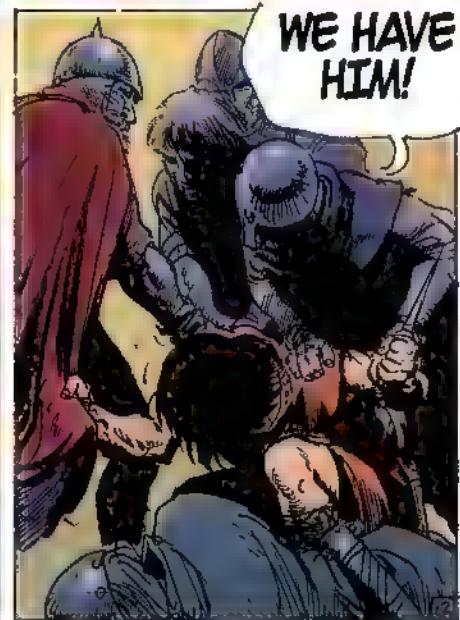
REALLY? AND  
WHO WILL BE  
SHAIGAN THIS  
TIME?



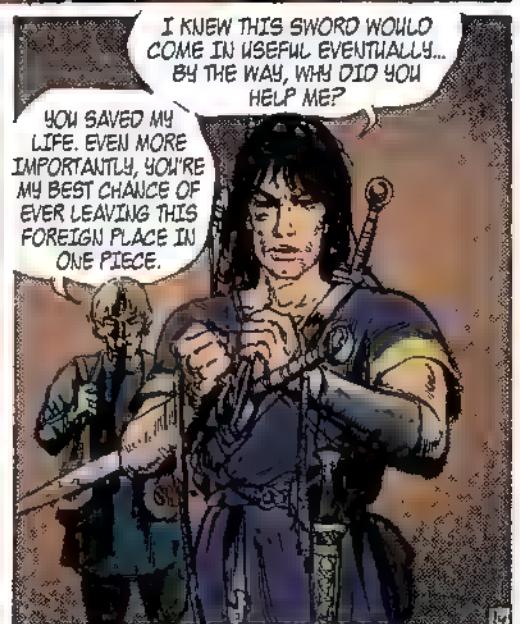
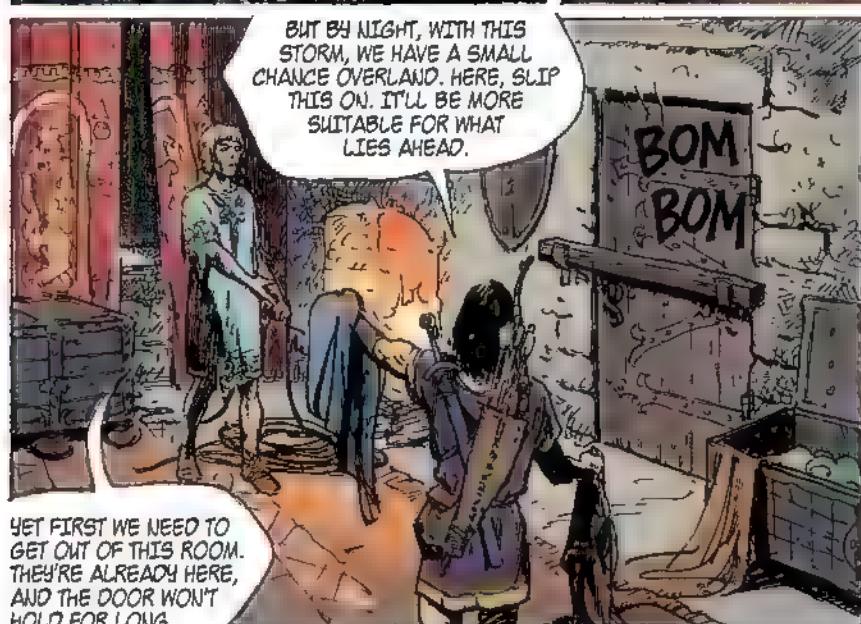
DRAGOV WILL LEAD IN YOUR NAME. AND I, HUMBLE WOMAN AND DEVOTED WIFE, WILL PASS YOUR ORDERS ON TO HIM. YOU SEE, EVERYTHING HAS BEEN ARRANGED SO WE CAN DO WITHOUT YOU.

IT'S WISER  
TO KILL HIM.

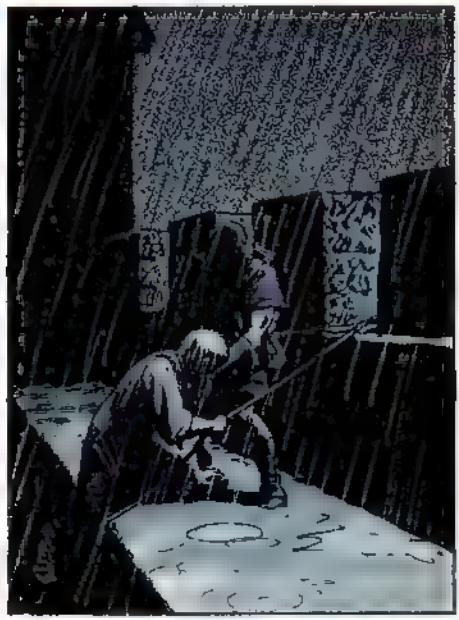
NO. I WANT HIM TO STAY ALIVE. I WANT TO SEE HIM LOCKED IN A CAGE UNTIL HE BEGS ME, SOBING, TO FORGIVE HIM...

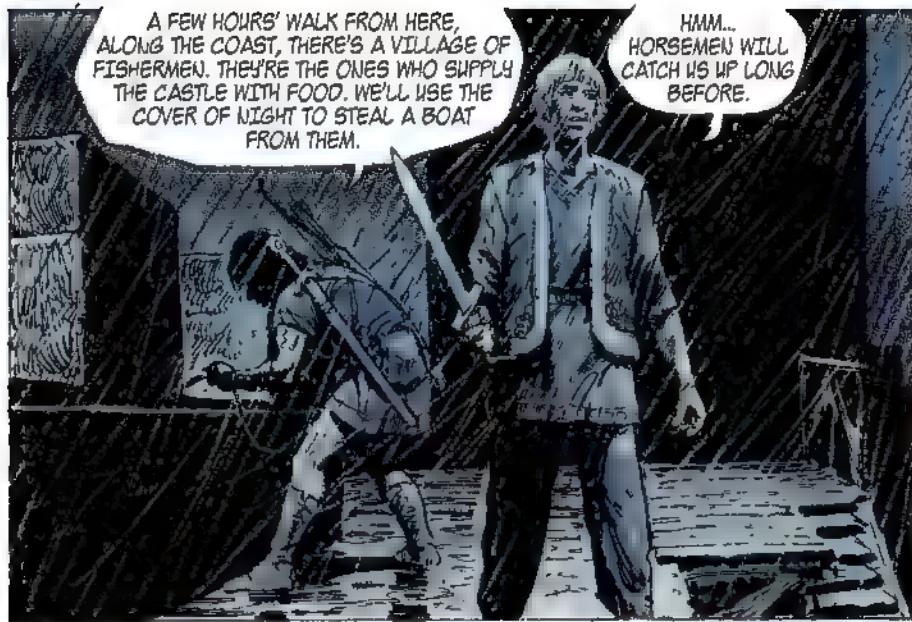


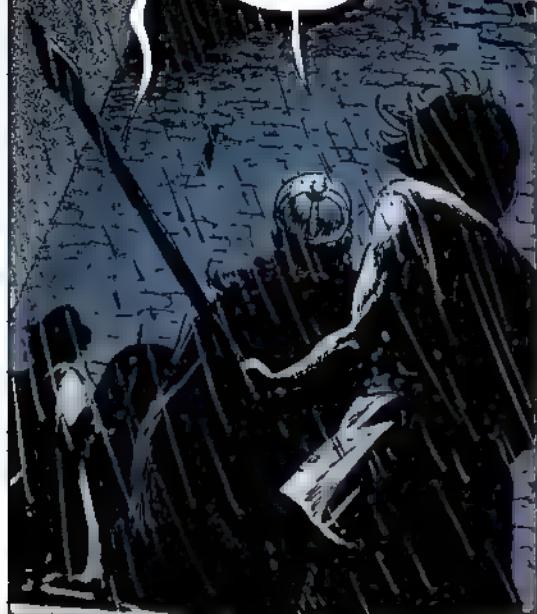


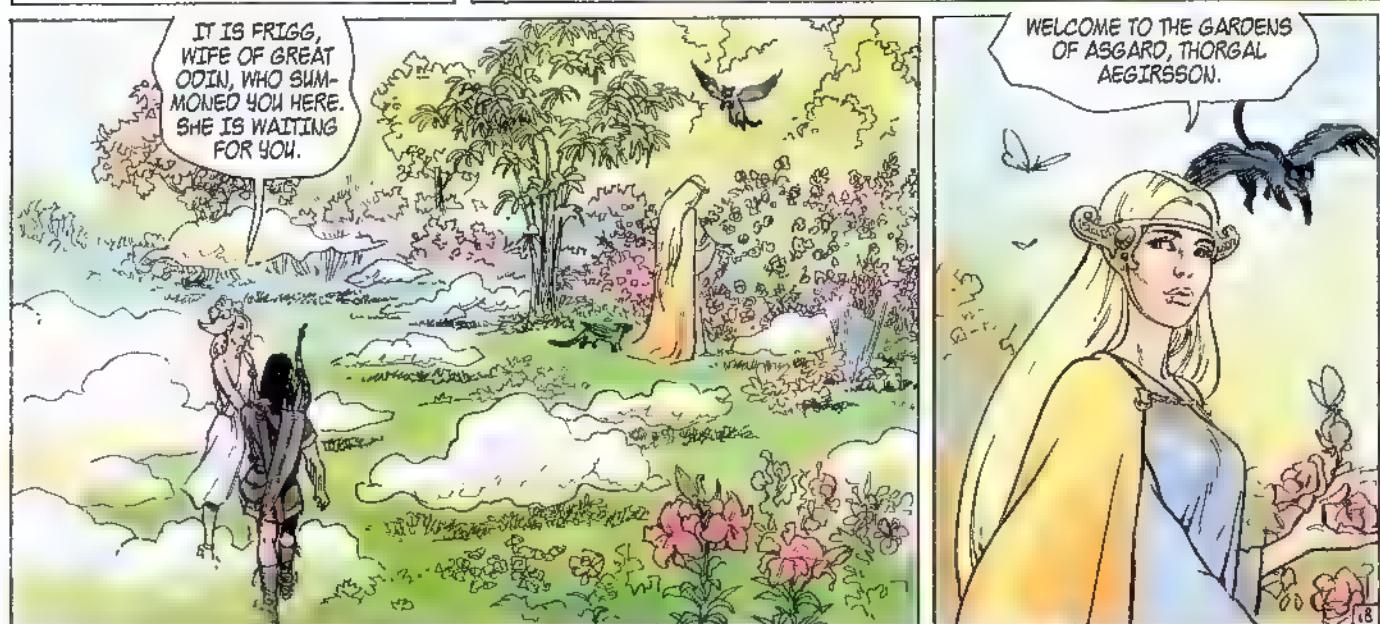
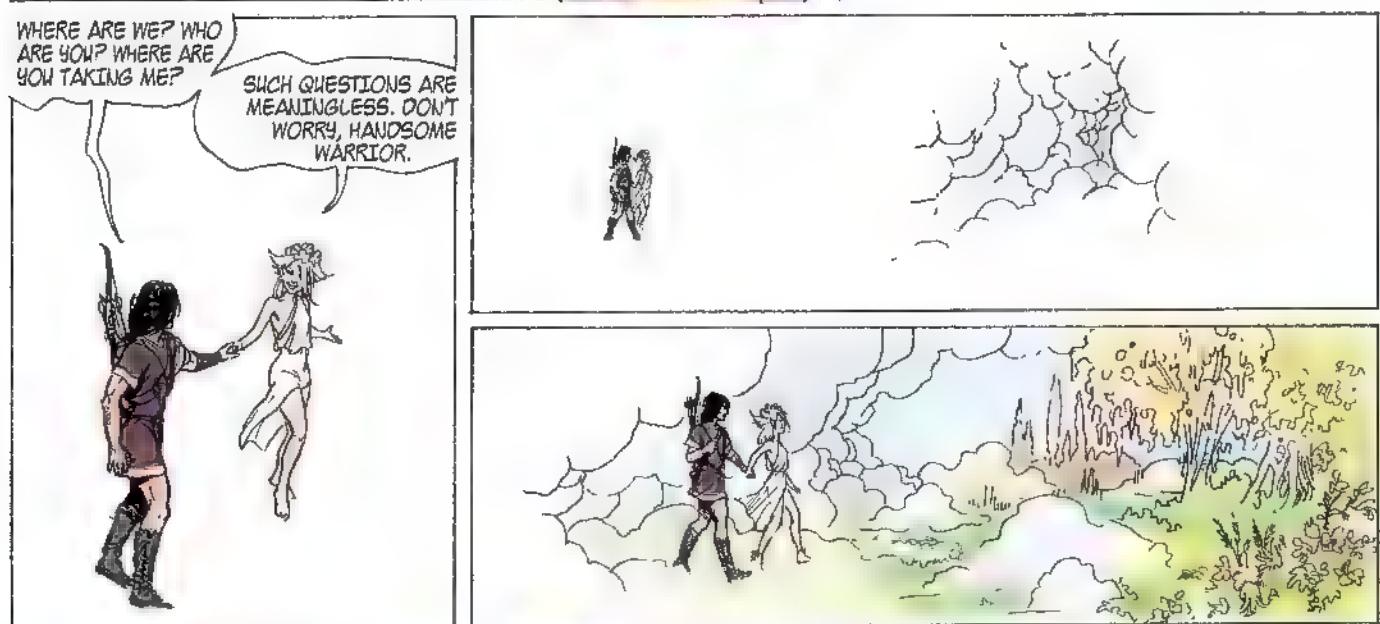


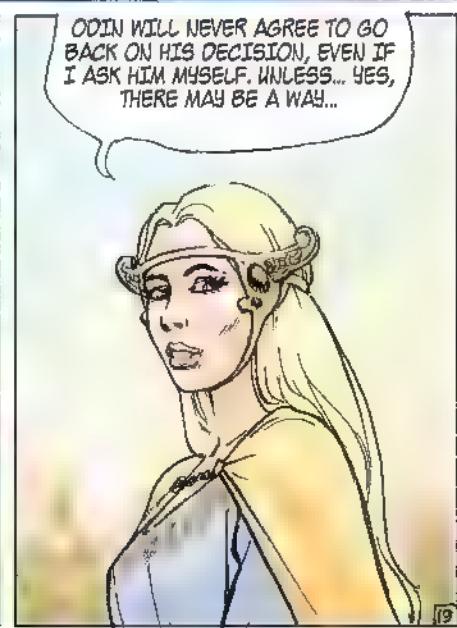
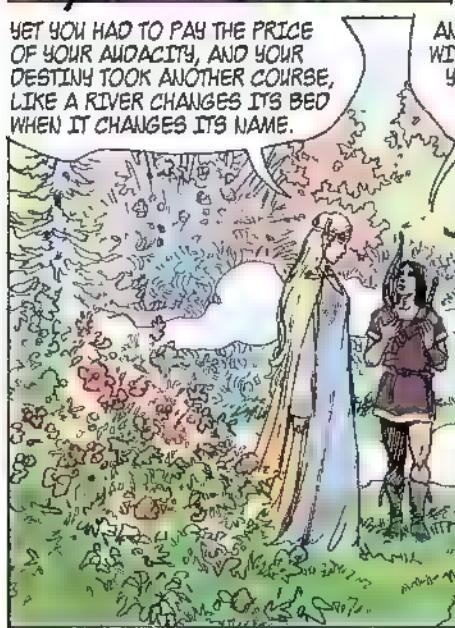
YET FIRST WE NEED TO GET OUT OF THIS ROOM. THEY'RE ALREADY HERE, AND THE DOOR WON'T HOLD FOR LONG.











"MIDDLE EARTH", WHERE HUMANS LIVE – AS OPPOSED TO ASGARD, HOME OF THE GODS.

AS YOU NO DOUBT KNOW, THE GODS AND THE GIANTS HAVE FOUGHT FROM THE DAWN OF TIME TO THE GREAT FINAL BATTLE, THE RAGNAROKKR, THE TWILIGHT OF THE GODS...



...AFTER WHICH THE GIANTS WERE EXILED TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD AND THE GODS WITHDREW TO ASGARD FOR EVER.

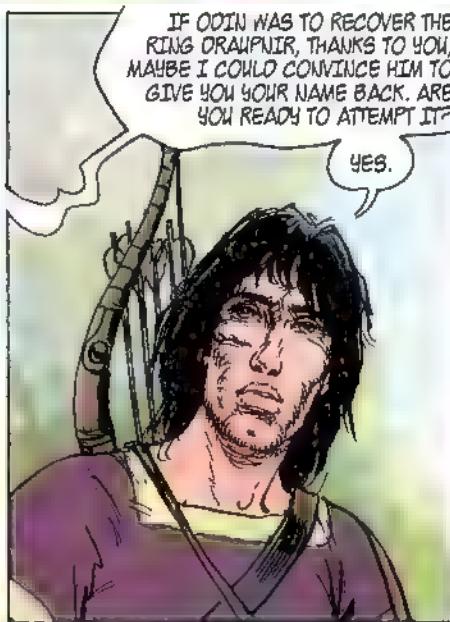


NO DENIZEN OF ASGARD IS ALLOWED TO ENTER THE LAND OF THE GIANTS. BUT A MAN COULD PROBABLY DO IT, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD HAVE LITTLE CHANCE OF LEAVING THERE ALIVE.



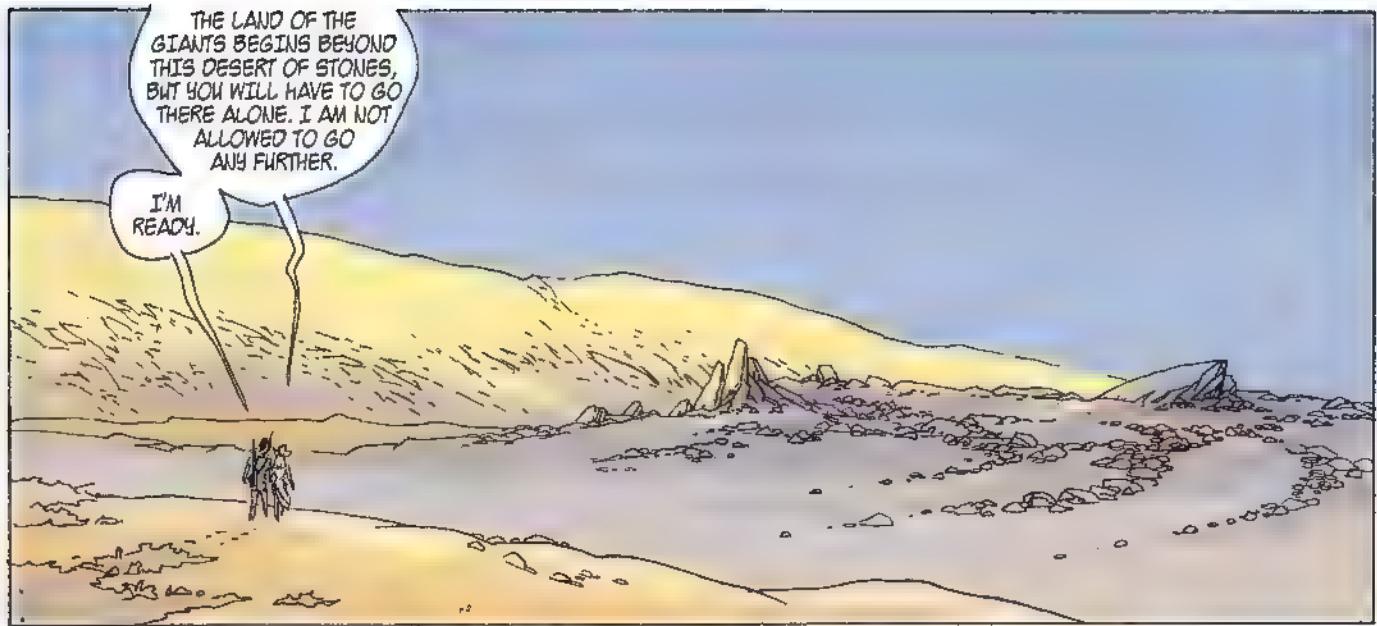
IF ODIN WAS TO RECOVER THE RING DRAUPNIR, THANKS TO YOU, MAYBE I COULD CONVINCE HIM TO GIVE YOU YOUR NAME BACK. ARE YOU READY TO ATTEMPT IT?

YES.



GOOD. SVANA WILL GUIDE YOU TO THE LAND OF THE GIANTS. BUT I MUST WARN YOU: IF YOU CAME TO BE KILLED DURING THIS VENTURE, NO MIRACLE COULD BRING YOU BACK TO LIFE THIS TIME. GOOD LUCK, THORGAL AEGIRSSON.





YOU ARE THE FIRST  
MAN I HAVE MET WHO  
IS STILL ALIVE.  
I WOULD NOT LIKE  
YOU TO DIE LIKE  
THE OTHERS.

LIFE WITHOUT MY NAME IS  
MEANINGLESS TO ME,  
SVANA. I HAVE NOTHING  
LEFT TO LOSE.

PLEASE DON'T  
TALK THIS WAY.  
YOU ARE HAND-  
SOME, YOU ARE  
STRONG... WHY  
MUST THE MEN  
WE LOVE DIE?  
GIVE ME YOUR  
KNIFE.

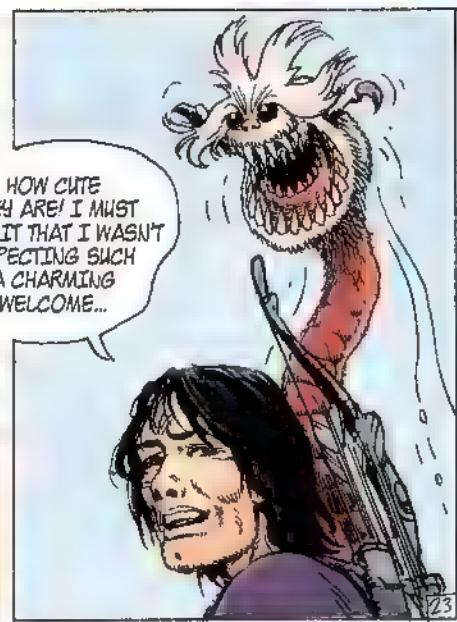
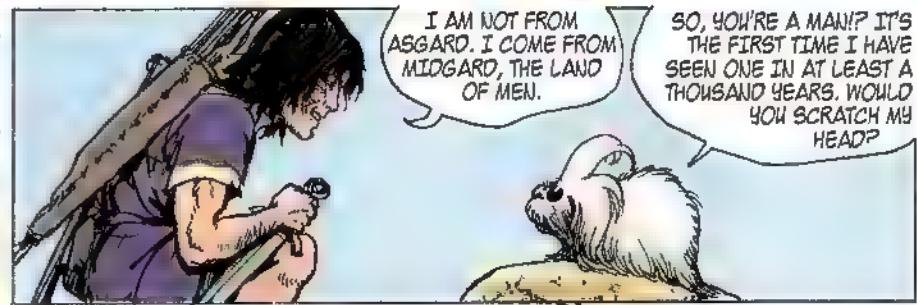
SVANA, YOU  
CAN'T.

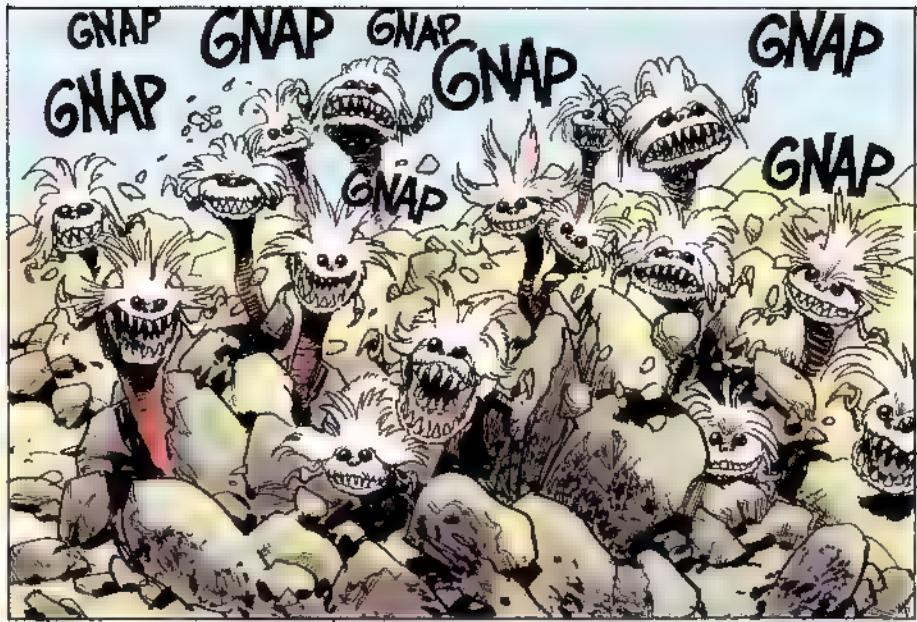
NO, HUSH. I  
KNOW I CAN'T,  
BUT...

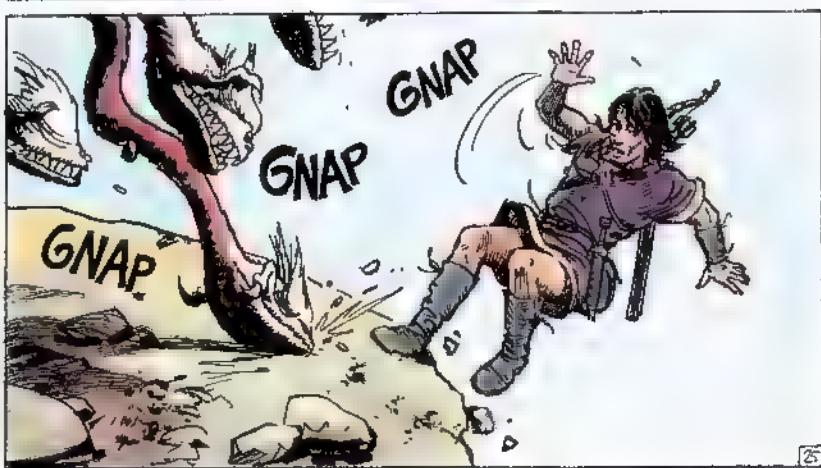
WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING?

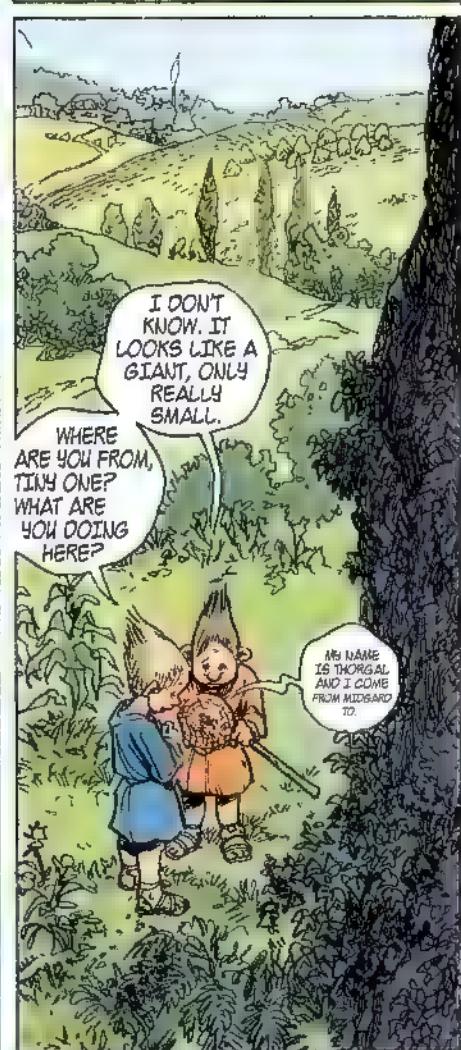
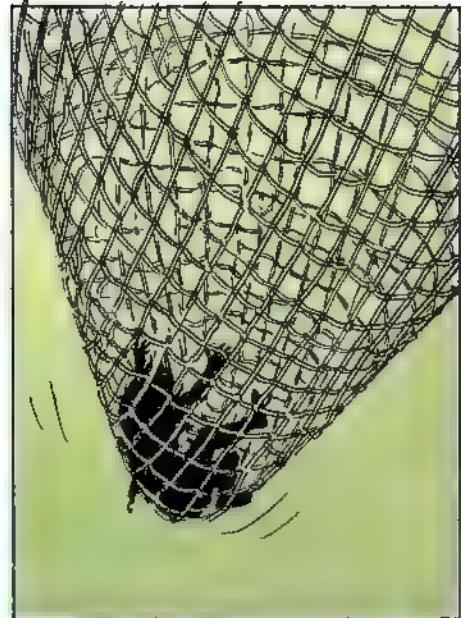
KEEP THIS LOCK OF HAIR  
AGAINST YOUR HEART.  
THAT WAY YOU WILL KNOW  
THAT, WHATEVER MAY  
HAPPEN, I WILL BE  
WITH YOU.

GO, NOW. I WILL WAIT  
FOR YOU HERE FOR THREE  
DAYS. IF YOU ARE NOT BACK  
IN THREE DAYS, THEN YOU  
WILL HAVE FAILED.











O PRINCESS HEIORUN, DAUGHTER OF OUR MIGHTY KING GEIRROED, DESIGN TO ACCEPT THE GIFTS THAT YOUR LOYAL SUBJECTS BROUGHT YOU FOR YOUR 683<sup>RD</sup> BIRTHDAY

I, BERGELMIR, MOUNTAIN GIANT, OFFER THIS SWORD FORGED WITH DRAGON BLOOD, WHICH NO FOE CAN WITHSTAND.



I, HRIJN, MASTER OF THE ICE FLOES, OFFER THIS ICE CHIASS, WHOSE REFLECTION WILL BLIND YOUR ENEMIES.



I, HJALMGUNNAR, FOREST GIANT, OFFER THIS TWO-HEADED HAWK. NO PREY CAN ESCAPE IT.

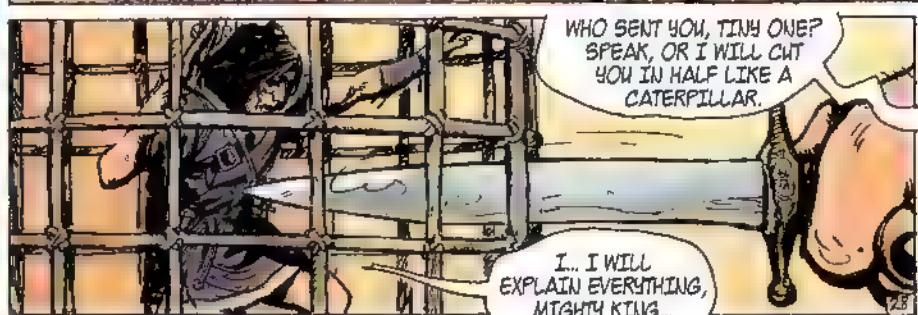
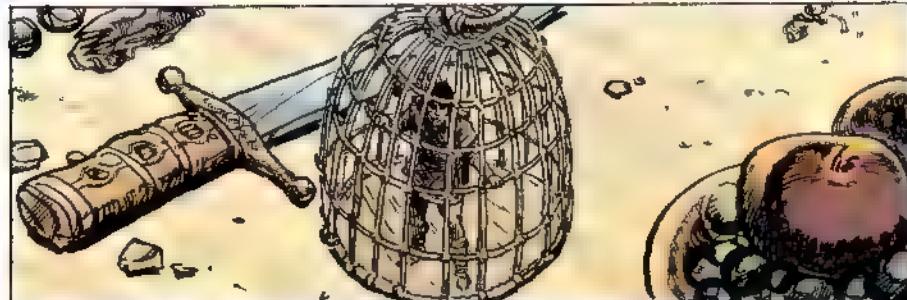
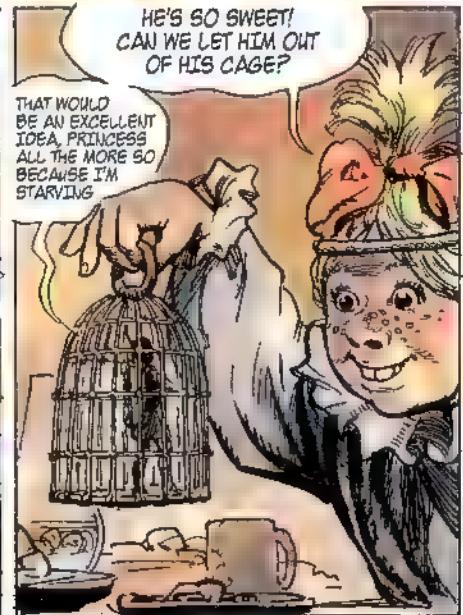


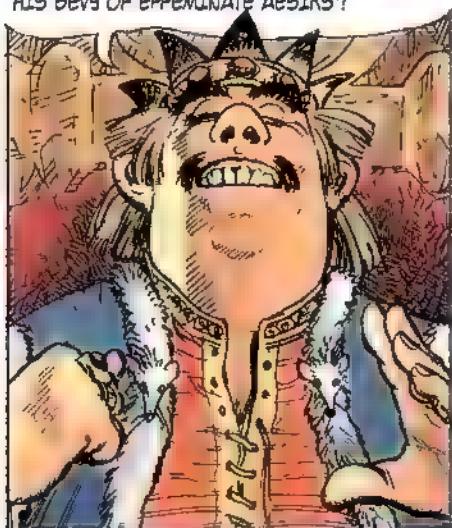
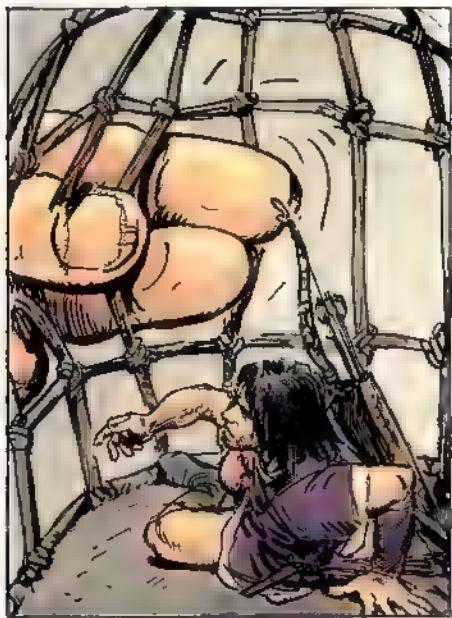
THOSE ARE VERY PLEASING GIFTS. WHAT DO YOU THINK, MY DAUGHTER?



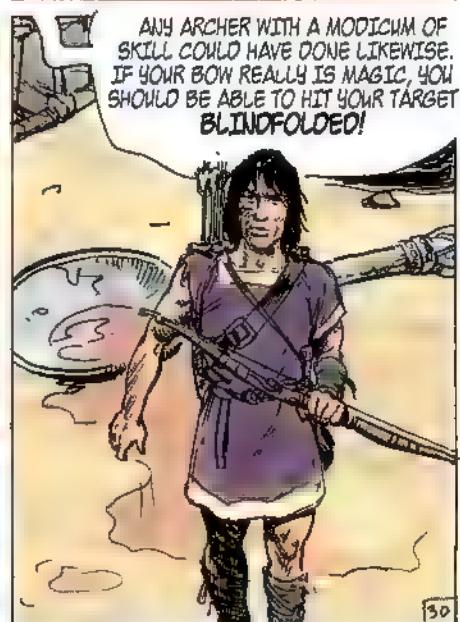
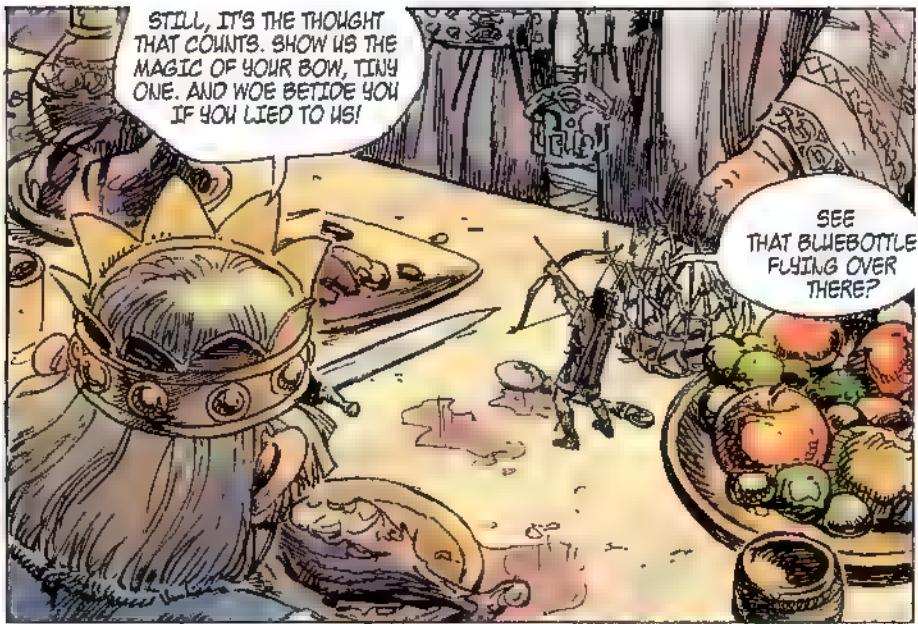
WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT LATER. AND YOU, MY SONS? DON'T YOU HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOUR SISTER'S BIRTHDAY?



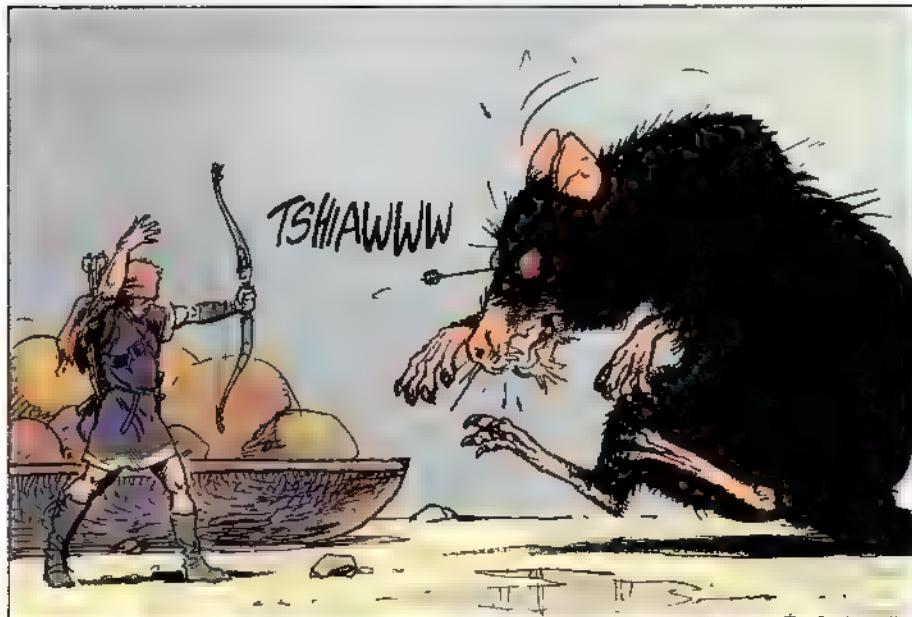




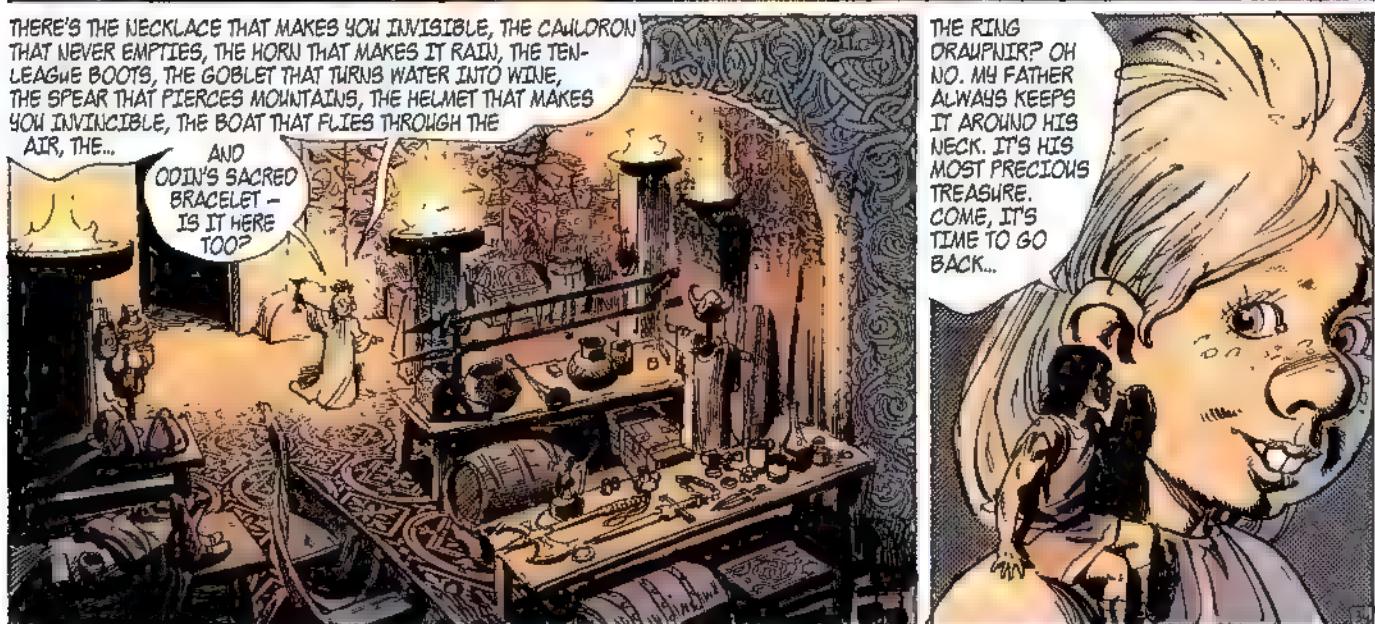
\*ANOTHER NAME FOR THE GODS OF ASGARD.

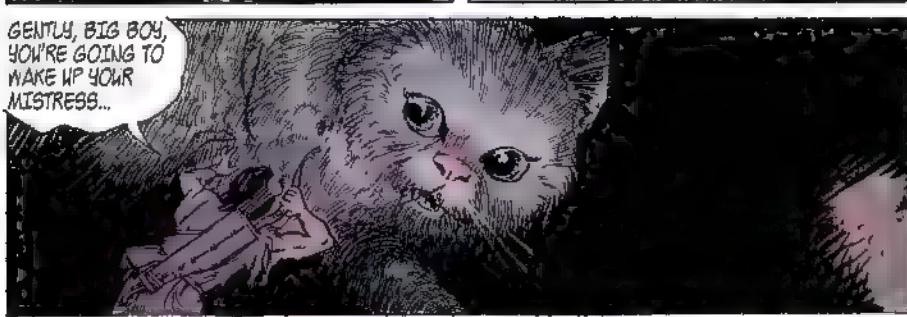








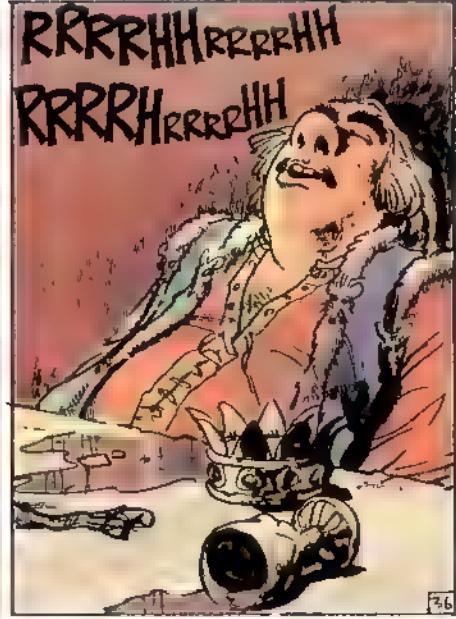


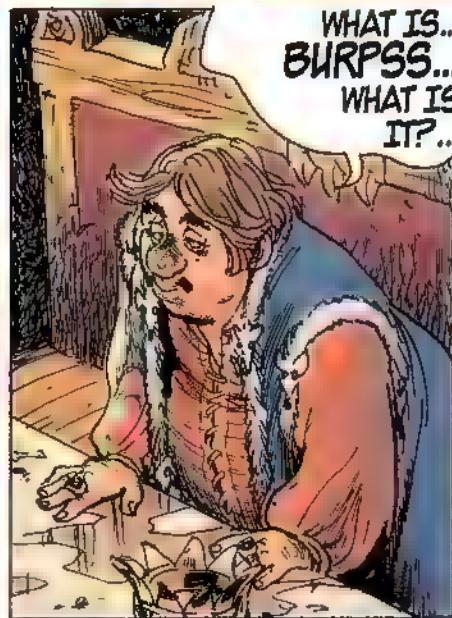


COME HERE  
BAD KITTY! I BET  
YOU WERE BEING  
MEAN TO THORGAL  
AGAIN.

LOOK HOW WELL HE'S SLEEPING.  
IT'S NOT A MOUSE, YOU KNOW.  
IT'S MY NEW DOLL TOMORROW,  
I'LL SEW HIM SOME PRETTY  
CLOTHES.

YOU STAY THERE  
UNTIL TOMORROW  
MORNING. THAT'LL  
TEACH YOU!





BY THE FLAMING GUTS  
OF FAFNIR THE  
DRAGON...

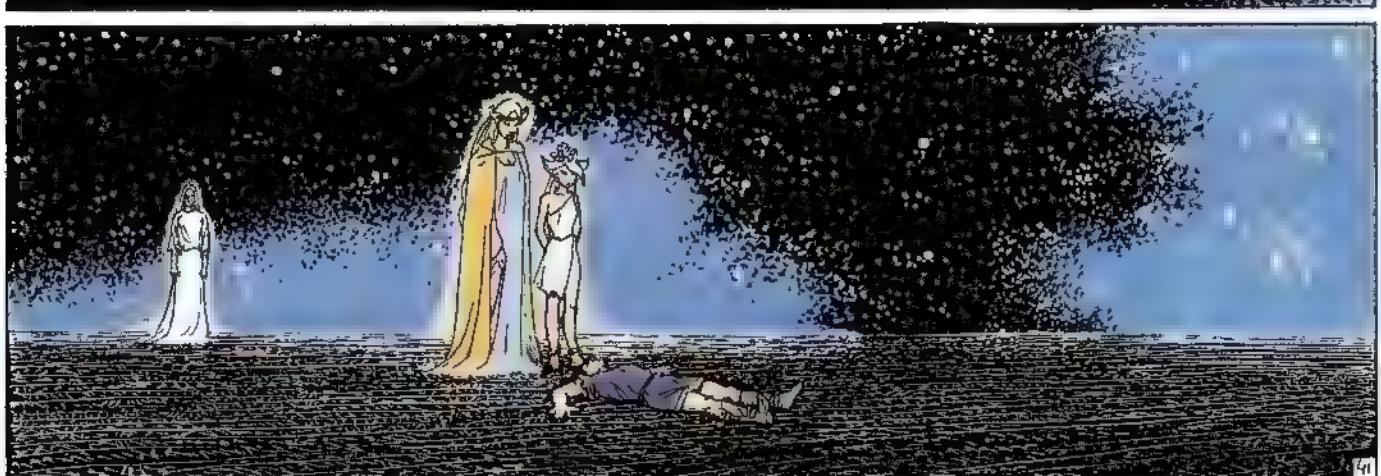
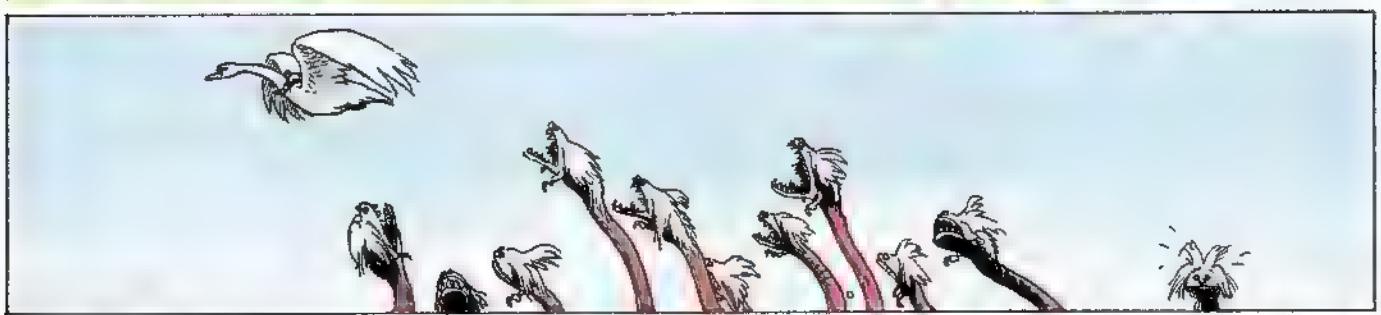


... FIND ME THAT CURSED SCRAP OF A MAN WHO  
DARED TRICK ME, OR I'LL HAVE YOU ALL BOILED  
ALIVE IN THE INFERNAL CAULDRONS OF NIFLHEL!!!

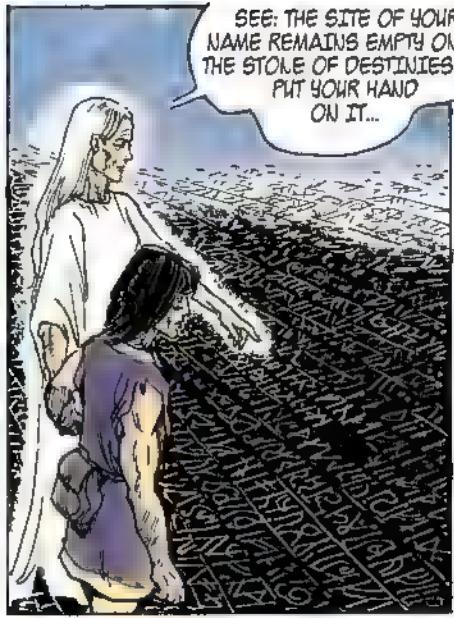
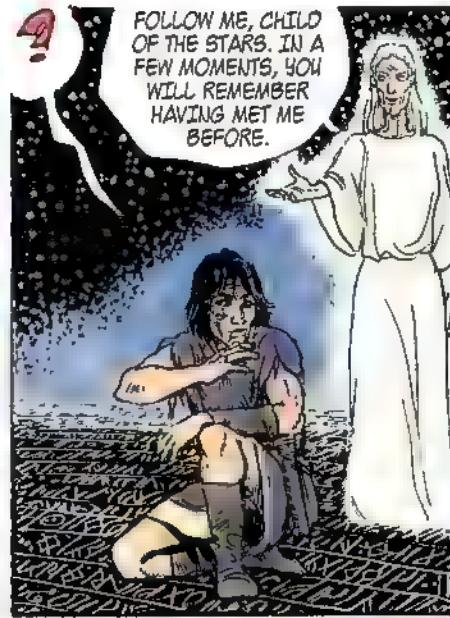
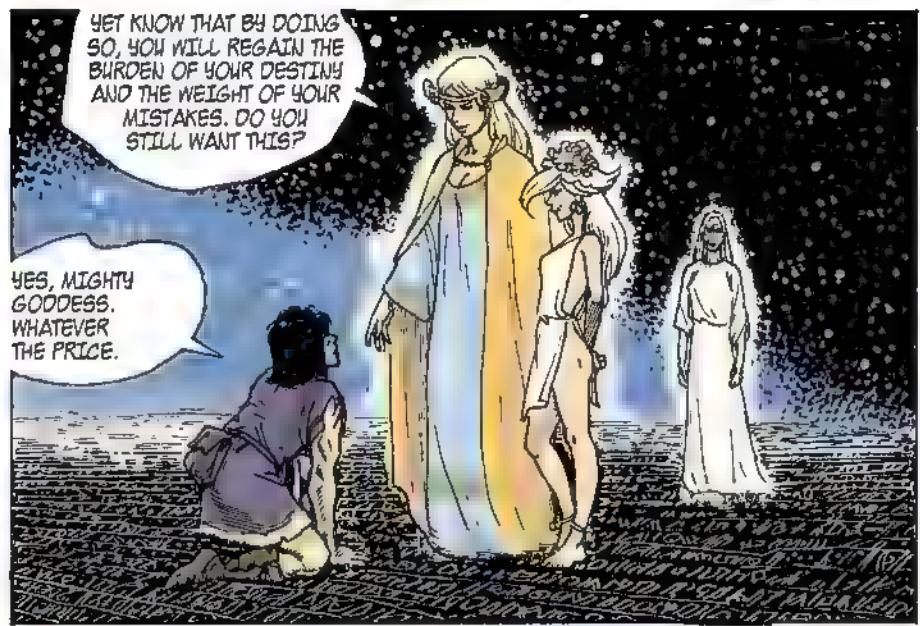








YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT FEAT, THORGAL AEGIRSSON, AND ODIN, MY HUSBAND, PERMITS YOU TO PLACE YOUR NAME BACK ON THE MEMORY OF THE GODS.



LOOK,  
KRISS OF  
VALNOR...

I AM FREE!  
I AM THORGAL  
AEGIRSSON AND  
I AM  
FREE!!!

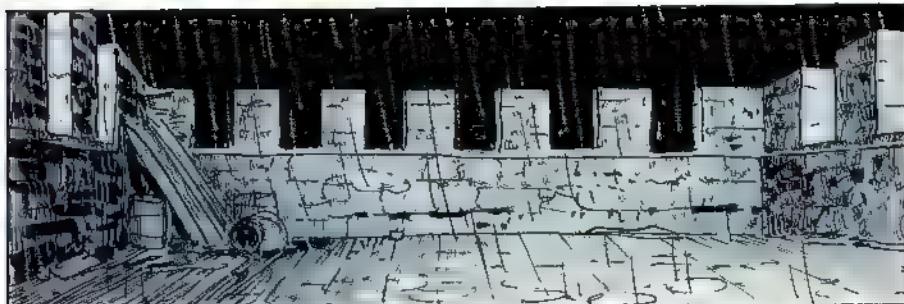
GIVE ME YOUR BOW... I'M  
GOING TO SILENCE THAT  
LOATHSOME LOWMOUTH  
ONCE AND FOR ALL.

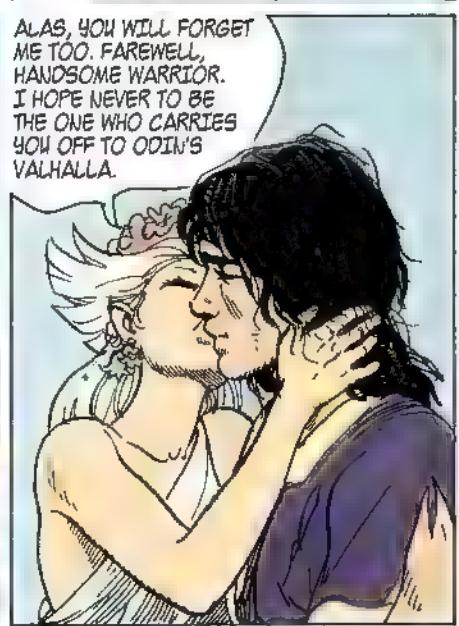
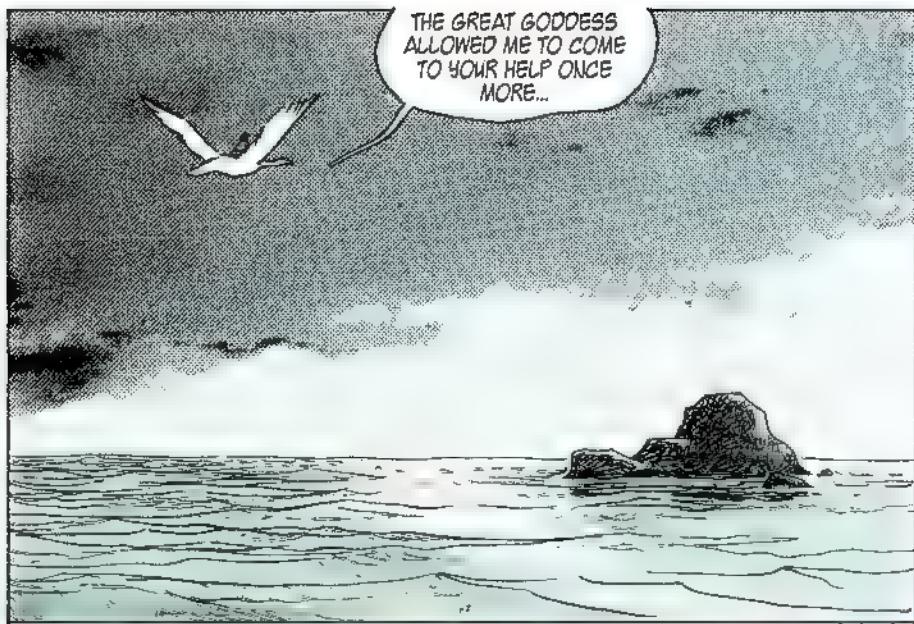
NO,  
DON'T  
SHOOT!...

???

DRAGONPIP...

A CURSE ON YOU, THORGAL!  
I WILL LET YOU ROT IN YOUR  
CAGE UNTIL YOUR VERY BONES  
TURN TO DUST!





GALATHORN!

HURRY UP AND COME ABOARD BEFORE THE GALLEYS OF KRIS OF VALNOR START CHASING US.

I WAS LUCKY: A THICKET BROKE MY FALL, AND I MANAGED TO STEAL THIS BOAT FROM WHERE YOU TOLD ME.

WHAT ABOUT YOU? HOW DID YOU REACH THIS ROCK IN THE OPEN OCEAN?

I... I DON'T KNOW, I CAN'T REMEMBER...

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A RAFT. DON'T TELL ME YOU GOT HERE BY FLYING THROUGH THE AIR?

I DON'T KNOW. GALATHORN, LOOK...

THE SIGNS ON MY HAND HAVE VANISHED. I'VE RECOVERED MY NAME AND MY MEMORIES.

YET ANOTHER MARVEL. YOU WILL ALWAYS REMAIN AN ENIGMA TO ME, THORGAL AEGIRSSON.

WHAT DO YOU PLAN ON DOING NOW?

FIND AARICIA, JOLAN AND WOLF CUB, AND TRY TO REPAIR THE EVIL THAT SHAIGAN THE MERCILESS DID.

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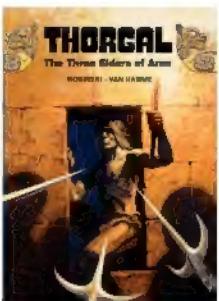


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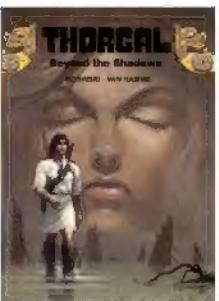
the gods have put a man to the test



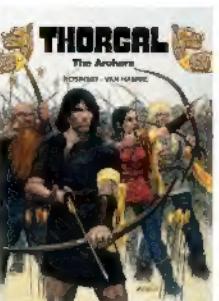
1 Child of the Stars  
Incl. Aaricia



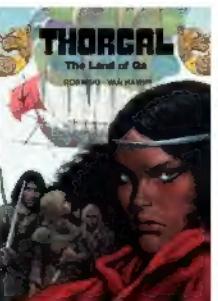
2 The Three Elders of Aran  
Incl. The Black Galley



3 Beyond the Shadows  
Incl. The Fall of Brek Zarith



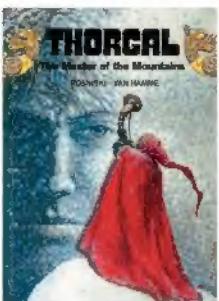
4 The Archers  
Incl. Alineo



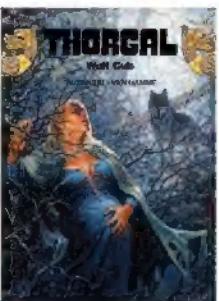
5 The Land of Qa  
Incl. The Eyes of Tanatloc



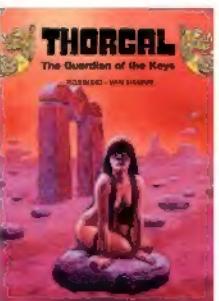
6 City of the Lost God  
Incl. Between Earth and Sun



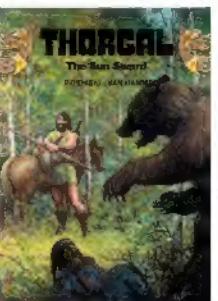
7 The Master of the Mountains



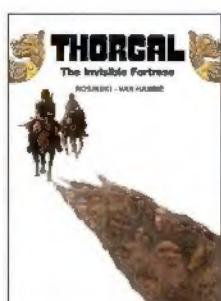
8 Wolf Cub



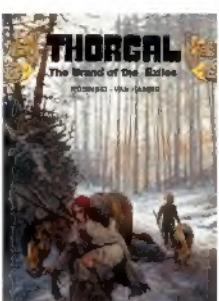
9 The Guardian of the Keys



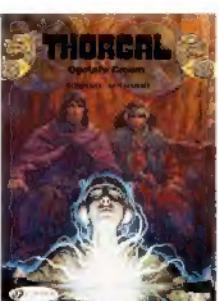
10 The Sun Sword



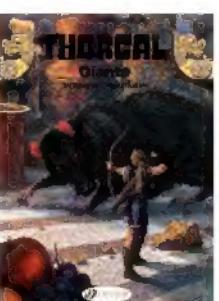
11 The Invisible Fortress



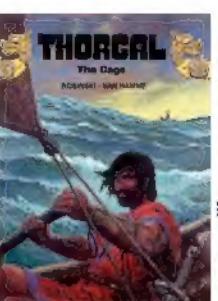
12 The Brand of the Exiles



13 Ogota's Crown



14 Giants



15 The Cage



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